

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 /122 W
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P 211250Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6214

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TRIPOLI AND TUNIS SHOULD BE INFORMATION
ADDRESSEES VICE ACTION ADDRESSEES)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TS, US

SUBJECT: JEUNE AFRIQUE ON MASMOUDI OUSTER AND US

REF: A) STATE 10637; B) PARIS 1613; C) PARIS 1385

IN LONG ANALYSIS OF TUNISIAN-LIBYA MERGER IN JANUARY 26
ISSUE, JEUNE AFRIQUE HAD THE FOLLOWING TO SAY CONCERNING THE US
AND MASMOUDI'S OUSTER:

BEGIN QUOTE: ... AT 10:20, PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA
RECEIVED THE US AMBASSADOR, MR. WILLIAM TALCOTT SEELYE.
EVERYBODY NOTICED THE ABSENCE OF MOHAMED MASMOUDI. IT HAD
NOTHING TO DO WITH THE UNION PLAN; THE APPOINTMENT HAD BEEN
MADE FOR EIGHT DAYS. THE CONVERSATION CONCERNED MASMOUDI
OR, MORE EXACTLY, THE RELATIONS OF THE TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
WITH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA HAD BEEN
CONCERNED BY CERTAIN RUMORS ACCORDING TO WHICH WASHINGTON WAS
STRONGLY HOSTILE TO MASMOUDI.

AFTER HAVING QUESTIONED WASHINGTON, AMBASSADOR TALCOTT
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SEELYE HAD RECEIVED A DIRECT REPLY FROM HIS SECRETARY

OF STATE, HENRY KISSINGER. IT WAS THIS RESPONSE
THAT HE HAD COME TO DELIVER TO PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA. THE
APPOINTMENT, THEREFORE, HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE TUNISIAN-
LIBYAN UNION. AT LEAST IN THE BEGINNING. MOREOVER,
KISSINGER'S REPLY REASSURED PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA. THERE
IS NO AMERICAN OSTRACISM TOWARDS THE TUNISIAN MINISTER...
END QUOTE. DECLASSIFY 12/31/74
STONE

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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30 JUN 2005

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